

CLAIMS

1. A method for producing a vegetal plant extract by the steps of:
 - (A) treating a solid plant material with an extraction agent to obtain an extraction liquid containing said extract dissolved in said extraction agent;
 - (B) separating said extraction liquid from said solid plant material; and
 - (C) concentrating said extraction liquid by at least partially removing said extraction agent to produce a concentrated extract;wherein said step (C) of concentrating said extraction liquid is effected in the presence of an effective amount of a pharmacologically acceptable an physiologically inert solution mediator so as to substantially avoid loss of constituents of said extract liquid upon concentration thereof by an at least partial removal of said extraction agent, said solution mediator being poly(vinylpyrrolidone).
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said extraction agent is a polar substance and preferably a C₁₋₄ alkanol or a mixture of such alkanol with water.
3. The method of claim 1 or 2 wherein said solution mediator is an organic polymer capable of being colloidally dispersible or soluble in said extraction agent.
4. The method of claim 3 wherein said organic polymer used as said solution mediator has an average molecular mass of at least about 1000 Dalton units.
5. The method of any of claims 1 – 4 wherein said vegetal plant is *Cimicifuga racemosa*.

6. An extract obtained by concentration of an extract fluid obtained by extracting of *Cimicifuga racemosa* with an extraction agent and concentration of said fluid extract in the presence of an effective amount of a solution mediator as defined in any of claims 1 – 5.

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7. Use of an extract as defined in claim 6 for production of a medicament capable of binding somatic as well as central nervous receptors so as to be suitable for treating climacteric and post menopausal distress.

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8. Use of an extract as defined in claim 6 for production of a medicament suitable as a substitute or complement of a hormone replacement therapy.

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9. A medicament capable of substituting or complementing hormone replacement therapy, said medicament consisting at least in part of an extract obtained by concentration of an extract fluid from *Cimicifuga racemosa* in the presence of an effective amount of a PVP as a solvent mediator.

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